

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, ES

SUBJECT: FRASER HEARINGS
""

REF: STATE 54687

1. THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN PRESENTED TO DEPARTMENT SUBSEQUENT TO MARCH 9 HEARING (TRANSCRIPT OF WHICH IS BEING POUCHED SOONEST).

2."QUESTION NO. 1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS PROVISION OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT, WHAT EFFORTS HAS THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TAKEN TO "DISASSOCIATE" OUR SECURITY ASSISTANCE FROM THE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN EL SALVADOR? (A) WHAT STATEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND ITS EMBASSY
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IN EL SALVADOR WITH RESPECT TO THIS MATTER? (B) WHAT STATEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE PENTAGON AND THE U.S. MILITAR ADVISORS IN EL SALVADOR WITH RESPECT TO THIS MATTER?

"QUESTION NO. 2: TO WHAT EXTENT ARE EL SALVADORAN MILITARY FORCES INVOLVED IN LAW ENFORCEMENT OR INTERNAL

SECURITY ACTIVITIES? TO WHAT EXTENT ARE SUCH FORCES ENGAGED IN SUCH ACTIVITIES WITH U.S.-ASSISTED EQUIPMENT OR TRAINING?

"TO WHAT EXTENT WERE EL SALVADORAN MILITARY FORCES INVOLVED IN PUTTING DOWN THE DEMONSTRATIONS WHICH TOOK PLACE AFTER THE ELECTIONS?

"GIVEN THE CONSIDERABLE DISSENSION FOLLOWING THE ELECTIONS, IS IT LIKELY THAT THE MILITARY FORCES WILL BE INCREASINGLY ENGAGED IN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND INTERNAL SECURITY ACTIVITIES?

"QUESTION NO. 3: THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS THAT ONE OFFICER IN THE U.S. EMBASSY INDICATED HIS SUPPORT FOR THE GOVERNMENT-BACKED PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE. WHAT EFFORTS DID THE U.S. AMBASSADOR TAKE TO ENSURE THAT HIS PERSONNEL REMAINED ENTIRELY NEUTRAL IN THE PRESIDENTIAL RACE?

"QUESTION NO. 4: DID COLONEL MOLINA (CURRENT PRESIDENT) AND/OR COLONEL ROMERO (THE PRESIDENT-ELECT) RECEIVE U.S. MILITARY TRAINING FROM SUCH ORGANIZATIONS AS THE SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS AND THE INTER-AMERICAN DEFENSE COLLEGE?

"QUESTION NO. 5: A FEW DAYS PRIOR TO THE ELECTION, FATHER BERNARD SURVIL, AN AMERICAN MARYKNOLL PRIEST, WAS KIDNAPPED BY PLAINCLOTHESMEN IN EL SALVADOR; DRIVEN TO THE GUATEMALAN BORDER WHERE A GUATEMALAN IMMIGRATION OFFICIAL JOINED THE PARTY; PLACED IN A GUATEMALAN JAIL; AND THEN DEPORTED TO THE UNITED STATES.

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"WHAT WAS THE DEPARTMENT'S REACTION TO THIS TREATMENT OF AN AMERICAN CITIZEN? WHAT REPRESENTATIONS WERE MADE?

"QUESTION NO. 6: ON PAGE 77 OF AID'S CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATION DOCUMENT FOR LATIN AMERICA FOR FISCAL YEAR 1978, IT IS STATED THAT "CONTINUING ASSISTANCE TO EL SALVADOR'S DEVELOPMENT IS IN THE U.S. NATIONAL INTEREST BECAUSE:

"EL SALVADOR'S GOALS AND PROGRAMS FOR SOCIAL IMPROVEMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PARTICULARLY IN THE RURAL AREAS, COINCIDE WITH U.S. DEVELOPMENT CONCERNS..." ON THE OTHER HAND, ON THE SAME PAGE OF THE DOCUMENT IT IS STATED THAT 'OWNERSHIP OF AGRICULTURAL LAND IS CONCENTRATED IN THE HANDS OF A FEW.' AREN'T THESE STATEMENTS CONTRADICTORY?

"IN JUNE 1976, THE EL SALVADORAN GOVERNMENT, WITH STRONG SUPPORT FROM AID, ANNOUNCED A SIGNIFICANT LAND REFORM PROGRAM. THE LANDED ARISTOCRACY AND THE MILITARY BLOCKED

THE PROGRAM. HOW HAS THIS DECISION AFFECTED AID'S PROGRAMS? ISN'T OUR INABILITY TO HELP THE RURAL POOR SEVERELY LIMITED IN VIEW OF THE EL SALVADORAN GOVERNMENT'S OBSTINANCE TO LAND REFORM?

"QUESTION NO. 7: WHAT IS THE DEPARTMENT'S POSITION CONCERNING THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK IN EL SALVADOR THIS MAY IN LIGHT OF THE ELECTIONS?

3. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY COMMENTS EMBASSY MAY WISH TO MAKE, PARTICULARLY RE QUESTIONS 1, 2 (REFTEL) AND 5.
VANCE

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